

REMARKS

1. Claims rejections under 35 USC § 102

The Patent Office rejected independent claims 1-21 as being anticipated under 35 USC § 102(e) by Cayrefourcq et al. (U.S. Patent 7,176,108). The Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections, but have nonetheless canceled claims 1-21 to obviate the rejection.

2. Allowable subject matter

Applicants note that claims 22-29 have been allowed; since these are the only claims pending after the amendments made herewith, Applicant respectfully contends that the instant application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone or personal interview would expedite prosecution of the instant application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to call the undersigned attorney at (312) 913-2106.

Respectfully submitted,
McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff

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By: /David S. Harper/
David Harper
Reg. No. 42,636
Telephone 312-913-0001
Facsimile 312-913-0002